



The Baronial Shaft

DECEMBER 2004

AS XXXIX

The Official Newsletter of the Barony of al-Barran



MIDWINTER

DECEMBER 18-19

THE BARONY OF AL-BARRAN

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BARON
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de Caergybi

BARONESS
THL Tana
a l'Esprit Fort

BARON'S CHAMPION
Sir Qara Gon

**BEARER OF THE BARONESS'S
FAVOR**
Master Gunwalt

BARON'S GUARD
Lord Thomas Winterborne of Ghent,
Brendan, Bjorn Thunarvin (aka Alias)
and Wego Sonovic

CONDOTTIERI
Lady Elisabeau,
Lord Roberto Tomas,
Lord J.T. Whoreschum,
and Lady Tessa Elizabeth de Strathairn

MASTER SWORDSMAN
Sir Lavan Longwalker

PREMIERE BLADE
Lord Giovanni Di Lucca

LORD OF OUTLANDISH
Duke Tomuki

LADY OF MAY
Mistress Beatricia

OUTLANDISH BLADE
Sam Tynker

BARONIAL BARD
Cornelius

FLOWER OF CHIVALRY
Lord Hrascauld

RAPIER FLOWER OF CHIVALRY
Don Otteaux

CHAMPION ARCHER
Lord Artorius

**PROTECTOR OF THE BARONESS'S
HEART**
Baron Trevor

BARONIAL ARTS AND SCIENCE CHAMPION
Lady Emery de Fittun

LADIES-IN-WAITING
Lady Isabella, Lady Brighid, Lady Melody and Heather

AIDE-DE-CAMP
Lord Y Port Lairge

CHATELAIN
Baroness Emma of Essex

Publication Information

This is the December 2004 edition of the Baronial Shaft, the official newsletter for al-Barran (Albuquerque, NM), a chapter of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. Subscriptions are available for \$10.00 per year. Please make checks or money orders payable to "SCA al-Barran" and send them to Baronial Shaft, P.O. Box 27676, Albuquerque, NM, 87125. Submissions for the Baronial Shaft may be sent via email to chronicler@al-barran.org. Hard copy should be typed. All copy must be submitted to the Chronicler no later than the third Tuesday of the preceding month. Articles may be edited, shortened, or not printed at the discretion of the Chronicler. The Baronial Shaft is not a corporate publication of the SCA and does not delineate official policy.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

DECEMBER

4	CHANG'AN MARKET <i>Dragonsspine</i>
4-5	BONWICK TWELFTH NIGHT <i>Bonwick (Ansteorra)</i> ❖
4	<i>Scorpion's Hockey Game Demo & Toy collecting</i>
11	CAER GALEN MIDWINTER <i>Caer Galen</i>
18	AL-BARRAN MIDWINTER ○
19	WAR PRACTICE ○

JANUARY

8	CEARTHEAN TWELFTH NIGHT <i>Cearthe</i> ❖
15	CITADEL TWELFTH NIGHT <i>Citadel of the Southern Pass</i> ○
22	SOUTHERN WAR PRACTICE <i>St. Goliath</i> ○
29	DRAGONSPINE CANDLEMASS <i>Dragonsspine</i> ❖

FEBRUARY

5?	WINTERWOLF <i>Blaidwyn</i> ○
16-21	ESTRELLA WAR <i>Kingdom of Atenveldt</i> ○

❖ attendance by His Excellency ❖ attendance by Her Excellency ○ attendance by Their Excellencies

FROM THE BARON AND BARONESS

Greetings to the populace,

Congratulations to our new Royal Majesties, Sultan Ibrahim and Sultana Ileana, and a big THANK YOU to the College of Blaiddwyn for an outstanding Coronation! Thank you also to the al-Barranians that competed in Crown (Count Jaxartes, Duke Cyrred, Lady Slaine) and the related tournaments, and congratulations to Boleslav for becoming Queen's Champion and our very own Michael McQuillan for becoming Protector of the Queen's Heart.

This missive won't reach your hands prior to our Toys-4-Tots event, but don't forget that we have another opportunity to monger toys ... the Scorpions hockey game on December 4th. Come join your Baron in watching people hit each other with sticks (on the ice like crazy people, but lots of fun). This is a demo event for us so wear all your scorpion gear to support your home town team. Discount tickets for everyone in garb! If you have a yen to travel that weekend instead, Her Excellency will be visiting our neighbors to the East, and some old friends, at Bonwick 12th Night in Ansteorra (Lubbock, TX).

This winter feast season promises the bounty of the Kingdom and kicks off with Unser Hafen Yule (12/3) [don't forget to do your holiday shopping on the way at the Ch'ang-an Market (12/3) in Dragonspine] and Hunter's Feast (12/4) in Windkeep. Don't eat during the week because the next weekend is Caer Galen Midwinter (12/11) [take your armor for a lively rendition of musical chairs...Her Excellency Yazida is a tough competitor]. And you can't forget, our very own al-Barran Midwinter in the time of the troubadours ... more on this fine event elsewhere in the Shaft. But wait, there's more! The new year begins with Caerthe 12th Night (Jan 8), Citadel 12th Night (Jan 15), and Candlemas in Dragonspine (Jan 29). After these fine events, and especially at Southern War Practice in St. Goliath (Jan 22), will be our opportunities to prepare with the rest of the army for WAAAAARRRR!!!

Speaking of Estrella...your last chance to pre-register is December 15th! Register early and often to ensure we get our space. If you have more than 10 people or 4 tents you will need to contact His Excellency to assure you get space in the Baronial camp. Now is also the time to submit your petitions for a Guido or Cordon Scorpion. You must train with the Barony, submit your petition by January 15th, and fight with the Barony at Estrella...**all Guido bearers will present themselves under the Guido Banner on the field Sunday for the castle battles.** Check out the scenarios, new site rules, and lots of important information at www.estrella.org.

While some recommendations have been received and are being investigated, we are still seeking a site for Grand Outlandish. Get your ideas to us or our Seneschal. If you are interested in autocrating one of our

(Continued from page 5)

planned events (Grand Outlandish, Champions, Esperanza, Toys-4-Tots, Midwinter) or creating a new one, contact us with a B.I.D. (Budget, Ideas, Description).

For everyone that has jumped in and helped us at events (heralding, hauling, escorting, etc.), thank you! Especially all our handmaidens and pages, you have been phenomenal!

Scorpions Rule!

Ryan

Tana



FROM THE BARONIAL SCRIBE

Greetings from the Scriptorium of al-Barran!

First of all, thanks to those who attended the classes in the scribal track at al-Barran's Arts & Sciences event on November 20th. Classes were taught for Combat Scroll-Making (Mistress Caelte), Scribal Materials, Beginning Illumination (Mistress Averil), and Beginning Calligraphy, Scroll Layout and Design, and A Calligraphic Hand for your Persona (Mistress Monika). All classes were well attended (about 10 per class); thanks also to the teachers and to Mistress Bennet who sent supplies and handouts, as well as support.

The baronial scribes active this month in providing scrolls for kingdom and baronial events include:

Mistress Caelte, THL Margheurita, Master Balthazar, Lord Michael MacQuillan, Lady Bronwyn Blackwell, Lady Amanda Murray, and myself. If I omitted anyone, please advise me so that I can make amends in my next report.

We are in the process of finalizing our baronial scribes' list and possibly setting up an e-mail list. There are about 30 people who list scribal activities in our baronial directory. If you would like to be included in baronial scribal activities, and have not contacted me yet, please do so quickly.

At Midwinter there will be a display of kingdom and baronial scrolls presented. If you receive a scroll, please bring it to the table for display. If you have a backscroll assignment, please make every effort to complete it for presentation and display at the event. Cardboard scroll cases will be available at the table to transport your scroll safely home. Thanks to m'lady Eileen for providing these from her workplace.

Yours in Service,

Monika von Zell

FROM THE ARTS AND SCIENCES MINISTER

Greetings,

Congratulations to everyone who participated in Toys for Tots day of A&S and the A&S championship. We had 28 total displays and 18 competing for the championship only 2 of those were from out of town, Yeah al-Barran! Their Excellencies chose to present prizes to certain displays out of all the ones present those results are as follows:

For the most items displayed: Lady Leonore of Black Diamond
For the most separate displays: Lady Emery de Fittun
For the most excellent first time entry: Lady Aedhagan of Min An Aoire
For the most outrageous display: Don Ongus O' Faelan
For the most authentic entry: Sir Jochen von Balduinseck
For the most fascinating entry: Lady Fahlah al-Nasafiyah
Baroness's favorite: Lady Coriander of Johnstone
Baron's favorite: Christopher Blackwood

The new Baronial Arts and Sciences champion is Lady Emery de Fittun.

Nothing new is happening for a while just feasting season and WAR. So if anyone needs help with court garb for the season let me know and I'll either help out myself or direct you to someone handier with a needle. As for WAR many of the entries into our own A&S fall within the WAR categories. Mistress Monika Von Zell has offered to help with and review documentation for both WAR and Kingdom A&S. Here are the exact spots off the war website for class information, special events, competition information and period demonstrations.

http://www.estrellawar.org/a_and_s-collegium.html
http://www.estrellawar.org/a_and_s-comp.html
<http://www.estrellawar.org/perioddemo.html>
<http://www.estrellawar.org/classdesc.html>
<http://www.estrellawar.org/classschedule.html>
<http://www.estrellawar.org/specialevents.html>

Coming up in Arts:

Regular activities:

—Gammer Gurton's Needle

Mondays 239-3196 for location and subject

—Singing with Lord Tancred

Thursdays 6:30 268-4994

—Armor workshops with Master Tore

Thursday 6:00-9:00 281-5694

—Weaving Knowledge and exchange with Lady Monika the Fair

3rd Friday of the month 323-5569

(December meeting cancelled for Midwinter setup)

—Court Dancing and Scorpions Scales

Sundays during fighter practice

Thanks everyone

THQ Asha

FROM THE WEBMISTRESS

Greetings unto all,

The following are the statistics from the al-Barran website for the month of October:

Overall accesses	72,464	Midwinter	494
Overall visits	3,735	A&S and Toys for Tots	336
Homepage accesses	2,362	Esperanza	96
Homepage visits	213		

Don't forget to send me pictures that you'd like to see up on the website.

Lady Melody

AL-BARRAN EQUESTRIAN CONTACT

The Al-Barran Equestrian Contact person is Ana Mikhailova (*Kat O'Connor*) you can reach her by email at pianokat3@yahoo.com or equestrian@al-barran.org and by cell phone at 804-2593. Since Ana is not an Equestrian Marshal there will be no official al-barran practices listed on the calendar but please contact her for more equestrian information.

FROM THE OUTGOING CHRONICLER

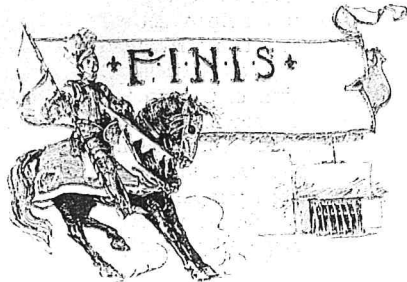
Greetings unto all,

This is my last letter to you, thank you everyone for your comments and suggestions for improvements that have been incorporated into the Baronial Shaft. While I have been the chronicler for the newsletter; in truth it really comes down our newsletter can only be as good as we, the populace, our autocrats and officers make it. So if your research leads you into a new area of study, please consider sharing it via the Baronial Shaft with others of our fine barony. The same goes for artwork and poems.

Please welcome Lord Y Port Lairge as your new chronicler come Midwinter. Please remember articles, letters for the newsletter are due at the monthly Citizen's Meeting.

Thank you, Michael for another wonderful Pony World cartoon. Hmm, I wonder who will be the subject next month's Pony World? I'll leave you with that to ponder.

Lady Kathus



TOYS FOR TOTS THANK YOU

Greetings,

It seems the Toys for Tots tourney was a success. We raised a lot of toys for the kids and had fun doing it. We raised 1113 toys during the event, and also had cash donations of \$570. Way to go al-Barran!

We had a Heavy weapons and a Rapier tournament. Both Tournaments had good turnouts and went well. The Heavy Weapons Tournament was coordinated by Badai Altai, and was won by Lord Brian Mcfaelain. The Rapier Tournament was coordinated by Lady Elisabeau, and was won by Lord Micheal McQuillen. Congratulations to the victors of the tournaments and to all who entered them!

We had a competition for raising toys, for the group who raised the most and the individual who raised the most.

The top 4 individuals are:

Lady Cristen raised 106 toys
Don Otteaux raised 79 toys
Lady Roma raised 72 toys
Lady Elisabeau raised 59 toys

The top 4 groups are:

Haven Avare raised 195 toys
Dueling Hearts raised 146 toys
Dragon Fyre raised 122 toys
Pirates raised 108 toys

The Day before Toys for Tots, there was a A&S Collegium held at Highland High School. That event raised 66 toys plus cash donations. That event was ran by Lady Barbara, who did a wonderful job and put on a Wonderful event.

Great work!!!! thanks to all who gave toys for the kids! They do appreciate it!

The list of People who helped make this event go well is long and I think I have all the names. If you helped and I didn't mention your name, believe me it was an oversite! Lady Natasha, Avery and Wego, the quartermasters, besides providing the tents, signs, all the other stuff they brought for the event, they stayed and helped setup and tear down, which helped immensely. Lady Ahzlin, and her crew, who provided a tasty hot lunch. The soup and bread were tasty, as always. Christopher Blackwood and Kimberly Blackwood, and Quinn of Golden Oak for the Children's activities. The children had a great time playing Hunker Housen and all the other things planned for them! Sebastian Taylor spearheaded the effort to provide a prize table for the event. There were lots of good variety to the table. I know he went to great pains to get people to donate to the table. Lord Canus, Ailin Railey, Don Otteux, the Quartmasters, Badai, Lady Elisabeau, and all who helped set up, tear down and generally organize things on the field.

(Continued on page 10)

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SSgt. Covey and LCPL Hermecio, USMC, The Representatives for the Toys For Tots Foundation.

Master Adam Stedefast, who was My Mentor for this event. He is undeniably my greatest resource in Autocrating this event.

Baron Ryan And Baroness Tana, who are fully behind the Toys for Tots effort, and help in so many ways.

Well, if I left anyone out I apologize. There are so many people who helped in so many ways.

There are other things planned in the near future for the toys for tots effort, so stay tuned.

Yours In Service,
Lord Morgan Railey

A DAY OF A&S THANK YOU'S

Many people worked very hard to make our al-Barran Day of A&S a very special day of learning, dancing, and fun! First of all, I wish to thank our wonderful teachers for all their hard work, research, time, materials, effort and continued dedication to teaching the Arts and Sciences. Thank you very, very much Baroness Tana, Mistress Beau, Master Gunwaldt, Lord Tancred, Lady Isabella, Lord Canus, Mistress Cailte, Mistress Monika, Mistress Averil, Mistress Richenza, Lady Dalia, THL Diana, Lady Gytha, Lady Bianca, Lord Y, THL Steitan, Lady Margaret, Sir Jochen, Lady Kathws, Don Otteaux, Lady Coriander, THL Alia, THL Gonner, THL Aigiarn, Ivanna, Marra, Haniya, Meghan, Serena, and Michael! I heard many, many compliments on your classes. This event would not have been so very special without you and all your great efforts! Huzzah!

Thanks Rab for securing the site and serving all day as our Site Coordinator. A very special thank you to Thalaurlana, our Feast-o-Crat who cooked, bought, & prepared all of our wonderful donations lunch and also did the kitchen cleanup! I heard many, many compliments on the lunch. Thank you Mistress Monika for your lovely donation of cookies for our luncheon. Winners of the desserts competition were Mistress Monika for Most Period (cheesecake) and Meghan for Populace Choice (rice pudding). Thank you Lady Bronwen also for your lovely dessert and for coordinating, directing and narrating the entertainment at lunch, the Rapier community's play "Off White and the Seven Cadets". Thanks also to the performers in this delightful play: Off White: Don Govanan, Dark Grey Don: Don Otteaux, Hunter Extrordinair: Don Rudger, Cadet #1: Ewen, Cadet #2: Odile, Cadet #3: Michael, Cadet #4: Lady Isabella, Cadet #5: THL Cristobal, Cadet #6: Lady Tessa, Cadet #7: Lord Aethelwulf, Game Show host: Dona Elisabeth, Card Girls: Willow and Serena the Mouse.

We really appreciate THL Pendar, who brought a lot of his research materials

(Continued on page 15)

REGULAR ACTIVITIES

CITIZENS MEETING

Held on the 3rd Tuesday of every month, 6:30 pm at The Manzano Mesa Multigenerational Center at 501 Elizabeth St SE, Albuquerque, NM. *Directions:* Take I-40 to the Eubank Blvd exit. Turn South onto Eubank. Continue on Eubank past Central and turn left onto Southern Ave. The Manzano Mesa Multigenerational Center is at the corner of Southern and Elizabeth, parking is on the back side. *Contact: Master James David 830-6904.*

Fighter Practice

Sundays, 11 am to 4 pm, at Bataan Park; Bataan Park is on the north side of Lomas just west of the Lomas & Carlisle intersection. *Contact: Lord Badai 242-6735*

Rapier Practice

Sunday afternoons, at Bataan Park; Bataan Park is on the north side of Lomas just west of the Lomas & Carlisle intersection. *Contact: Don Coinneach 343-8362*

Westside Fighter Practice

First and third Saturdays from 9am to 11am, at Paradise Hills Park near the Northeast corner by the skate park. *Directions to the Park:* Take Paseo Del Norte west to Golf Course Road. Go Right on Golf Course to Paradise. Turn Left (West) on Paradise. Take Paradise past Lyon/Unser to the park (It's on the right hand side of the road). *Contact: Lord Vlad 344-0094.*

Archery Practice

Held on every Saturday of each month. Practice starts at 10 am, please be sure to arrive early so we can get the paperwork filled out and practice started on time. The practice range is at Master Tore's & Dona Sylvia's home in the Tijeras area. *Contact: Oengus of Greymist for directions and additional information by email at archery@al-barran.org*

Blaiddwyn Fighter Practice

Held on Wednesdays starting at 6:00 pm. Fighter practice is now held in front of Carlisle Gym. *Directions:* Go west from Redondo Rd and Yale and turn right into the first parking lot, traverse the length of the parking lot and to the right: go up between Northup hall and Carlisle Gym. Fighter practice will be on the left. Please note: According to the UNM Parking website they will be enforcing parking regulations until 8 pm.

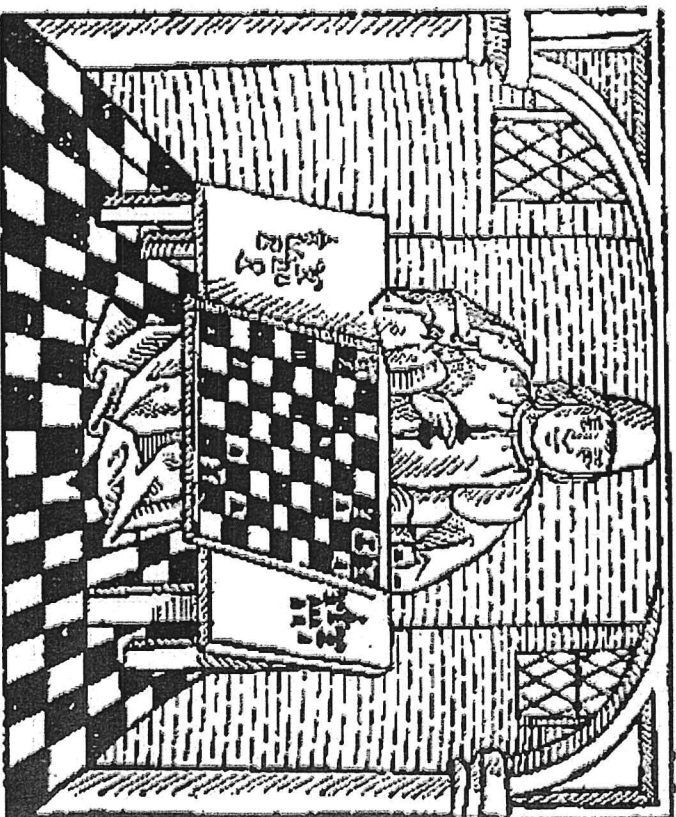
Newcomers Household

Newcomer's for will meet at 5912 Aspen NE (SW corner of Aspen and San Pedro) to view *The Lion in Winter*. THL Delia has graciously invited us into her home with a BIG screen TV for this month's meeting. Questions? *Contact Elisheva at 872-2711 or dchssheva@aol.com*

Weaving Knowledge Exchange & Workshops

The study & application of all types of weaving & it's history. Third Friday of every month at 7 pm at Lady Monika's house. *Contact: Lady Monika the Fair at 323-5569 for more information and directions.*

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Regular Activities listings Pages 11&14 has more regular activities information. The Minister of A&S' letter lists more A&S opportunities. Please contact Lady Barbara about Court Dancing practice.						
5 -Fighter & Rapier Practice	6 Gammer Gurton's Needle	7	8 Blaidwyn Fighter Practice	9	10	11 Archery
12 -Fighter & Rapier Practice	13 Gammer Gurton's Needle	14 Newcomer's Household Meeting	15 Blaidwyn Fighter Practice	16	17	18 Archery & Westside Fighter Practices
19 -Fighter & Rapier Practice	20 Gammer Gurton's Needle	21 CITIZEN'S MEETING	22 Blaidwyn Fighter Practice	23	24	25 <i>Merry Christmas</i>
26 -Fighter & Rapier Practice	27 Gammer Gurton's Needle	28	29	30	31	



DECEMBER CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- 4 CHANG-AN MARKET *Dragonspine*
- 4-5 BONWICK TWELFTH NIGHT *Bonnie*
- (*Austoria*)
- 4 Scorpion's Hockey Game Demo & Toy collecting
- 8 *Happy Chanukkah*
- 11 CAER GALEN MIDWINTER *Caer Gales*
- 12 New Moon
- 14 NEWCOMER'S MEETING
- 18 AL-BARRAN MIDWINTER
- 19 WAR PRACTICE
- 21 CITIZEN'S MEETING
- 22 *Winter Solstice*
- 24 *Christmas Eve*
- 25 *Merry Christmas*
- 26 *Boxing Day*
- 26 Full Moon
- 31 *Happy New Year Eve*

The Gaulish Calendrical Tablet, the Coligny Calendar, the month of December-January is called Riuros or 'The Cold Time', When the ice bites deep.

21.5. XXXXX/2004

DECEMBER

2004/21.5. XXXXX

REGULAR ACTIVITIES

Court Dance Practice

Because of the cold weather, we are looking for a free room to hold court dance practice indoors during December, January, and February for a couple of hours, two Sundays per month in the afternoon. Therefore, we have not yet set court dance practices for December. There will be court dancing after the feast and evening court at our Mid-Winter event on 12/18. For our new winter court dance practice location, dance practice dates and times, please contact Lady Barbara at krege@aps.edu or 293-7453 or join the free Musicians and Court Dancers discussion list, alBarranMusic.Dance at www.groups.yahoo.com

Scorpion Scales, music group

Founded to provide atmosphere and live accompaniment to court dancing at feasts and events. Come join the al-Barran court dance musicians; instrumentalists interested in playing live music for court dancing, please consider attending. The idea is to have available live court musicians instead of using the CD player at some events. Please visit our website: http://www.geocities.com/shiao_mei17/sscales.html to download current music to practice. Meetings will be held on Thursdays at 7:30 pm, at Lady Melody's house. Please contact: Lady Melody at lockgen1@aol.com for further information.

Singing Group Practice—NEW!

A new singing group is forming, if you are interested in learning and singing period songs this is the group for you. More info on page 12. If you are interested in being a member of this singing group or wish further information, please contact Lady Barbara at krege@aps.edu or 293-7453.

Gammer Gurton's Needle

The study and application of embroidery, lace, and other needlework techniques. Check out the article for current meeting place and monthly focus on the page 26. Contact: Lady Rosamond at 865-9082 or ldyrosamond@msn.com OR Delia the Rose of Thorncastle at 232-7946 or HLDelia@aol.com.

Arts and Sciences Knowledge Exchange and Workshops

Topics to include: felting, lampwork beads, stone carving, soap, leather, conserves, cooking and much more. To meet on the 4th Thursdays of each month at 7 pm at 10417 Palo Verde Place NW. Contact: Lady Skia 344-0094 for more information, when a workshop is happening and directions.

al-Barran Youth, Parents, & Interested Adults Discussion List--NEW!

This team has regularly scheduled team meetings to discuss youth activities, plans, and important information for youth and parents. Our next meeting is scheduled for Mid-Winter, before the feast. There is also a local discussion list for al-Barran youth, parents and volunteers for youth activities. To join this free discussion list, go to www.groups.yahoo.com and join the al-Barran_Youth_and_Parents list. For further information, please contact the Youth Information Contact Person, Lady Barbara at krege@aps.edu or 293-7453.

and did heraldic consulting all day! Our thanks also to THL A'isha for organizing the Baronial A&S Champion displays and to Baroness Tana for choosing our new Arts and Sciences Baronial Champion, Lady Emery de Fittun. Congratulations! I wish each of you could have seen the 28 amazing Arts & Science displays of our artisans and scientists. They were truly a sight to behold! Thanks also to Ivanna, 13, who put together bouquets of flowers for table decorations and to give away. Special thanks also to all the dancers who attended our court dance ball and to the court dancing leaders: Lord Canus, Lady Melody, Lady Isabella, Lord Rouland, and Lady Barbara. We had lots of fun and enjoyed listening to Master Adam, Lord Morgan, and Lady Gwen promote our Toys for Tots effort on a radio show. A special thanks to Sile, who was in charge of our youth activities and to the Web minister for our website, Lady Melody. Thanks also to our Reeve, THLady Aigiarn, for her support of the gate and special thank yous to each of our gate volunteers: Lady Coriander, Haniya, Lord Christopher, Lady Melody, Rachel, Lady Lyneya, Lord Bartoleme, Rab, and THL Cristobal. Special thanks to our setup and cleanup crews: Rab, Haniya, THL Christobal, and all the fine gentles who pitched in at the end of the evening. Special thanks also to Lord Canus, Haniya, THL Cristobal, Rab and Thalaurliana for hauling and delivering things to and from the event for us.

We raised 66 toys and approximately \$465 (the gate and donations lunch proceeds) to buy more toys for our Toys for Tots efforts on behalf of the children and the Marines' toy drive. We also had lots of fun! We were delighted with our artisans' and scientists' displays and works of art and science, entertained, ate well, and learned a lot from some very dedicated, knowledgeable and generous teachers! This event would not have been as special without each of you who attended, taught classes, and contributed with your talents, money and service! And finally, a very special thank you to Baron Ryan, Baroness Tana, Master James David, Lord Morgan and Master Adam Stedefast for all their support of this event and of the Arts and Sciences in al-Barran. Huzzah!!

Yours in Service to the Dream,
 Lady Barbara
 Deputy Autocrat for a Day of A&S in al-Barran



ELEANOR AND THE TROUBADOURS

The art of the troubadours was part of Eleanor's life from her earliest days. She was the grand daughter of Duke Guillaume IX of Aquitaine, and one of the first troubadours. The art of the troubadours flourished from the late 11th century through the 13th century. Originating in what is now Southern France, Northern Spain and Northern Italy it was to eventually influence most of Europe. With Eleanor's marriages this art form was exported first to the rest of France, and then to England. The poetry and music of the troubadours was quite expressive, and often spoke of love, lust or beauty. Eleanor supported troubadours in her courts. Her son Richard I was not only a patron of the troubadours, but like his great grand father he was a troubadour himself. Two of his poems survive.

The following is an example of a troubadour poem. It is in the style of an alba, a poem about the coming of dawn, and the separation of lovers which the dawn brings. This poem was found at (http://www.ucalgary.ca/applied_history/tutor/endmiddle/bluedot/trouba.html) and according to that site is "From The Middle Ages Volume I, p.199-200. Taken from a 1950 translation."

In orchard where the leaves of hawthorn hide,
A lady holds a lover by her side,
Until the watcher in the dawning cried.
Ah God, ah God, the dawn! It comes how soon.

"Ah, would to God that never night must end,
Nor this my lover far from me should wend,
Nor watcher day nor dawning ever send!
Ah God, ah God, the dawn! It comes how soon.

Come let us kiss, dear lover, you and I,
Within the meads where pretty song-birds fly;
We will do all despite the jealous eye:
Ah God, ah God, the dawn! It comes how soon.

Sweet lover come, renew our lovemaking
Within the garden where the light birds sing,
Until the watcher sound the severing.
Ah God, ah God, the dawn! It comes how soon.

Through the soft breezes that are blown from there,
From my own lover, courteous, noble and fair,
From his breath have I drunk a draught most rare."
Ah God, ah God, the dawn! It comes how soon.

Gracious the lady is, and debonaire,
For her beauty a many look at her.
And in her heart is loyal love astir.
Ah God, ah God, the dawn! It comes how soon.

AL-BARRAN MIDWINTER AND WAR PRACTICE

Barony of al-Barran

December 18 and 19, AS XXXIX (2004)

Midwinter site:

NM State Fairgrounds, 4-H Bldg,

San Pedro and Lomas, Albuquerque, NM

Midwinter fees: Adults (12 & up): Site only - \$10.00; Feast - \$5.00

Children (age 4 - 11): Site only - \$5.00; Feast - \$3.00

Children 3 and under - No charge

War Practice site:

Bataan Park, Lomas & Carlisle, Albq., NM

War Practice site is free

NOTE: All alcohol consumed at the feast site MUST be purchased from onsite vendor.

The site for War Practice is free and bone-dry.

Come join Their Excellencies Ryan and Tana and celebrate good friends, good food and good song. Gather in beautiful al-Barran as we enjoy Christmas in the Time of the Troubadours. The hall is decorated with greenery, the Yule log burns, carols waft through the air, the spiced wine simmers, men whisper of Eleanor's famed beauty, women listen enraptured to tales of Richard in the Holy Land, and troubadours fill the hall with song. We take our cue from England and France in the twelfth and thirteenth centuries and the holiday traditions of that time.

Bards and troubadours will entertain you throughout the day with music and song. Vendors will be plying their wares. After court, enjoy European and Middle Eastern dancing. Join us early in the day to light the Yule Log and sing carols. THLord Gonner will host a gaming room in the Tavern area during the day and evening.

Since we are celebrating not only the season, but the Court of Love as well, all good gentles are encouraged to bring some token to reward the courtly behavior of a fellow reveler. In a similar vein, the finest dress and table settings will be acknowledged with suitable tokens.

A delicious feast will be served starting at 3:00 p.m. featuring the following:

First course:

tart of salmon, pickled vegetables, pate, herbed cheese, stuffed eggs, toasts, bread and butter.

Second course:

venyson in broth (beef/venison stew), boore in brassey (pork stew) roasted root vegetables, littiu with fruit (oatmeal/fruit pudding).

Third Course:

broth of thyme with croutons.

(Continued on page 18)

(Continued from page 17)

Fourth Course:

hens in the Lombard manner (with --or without for dietary concerns-- bacon),
rhys stondynge with wardonys in syryp (rice and pears), French iowtes
(peas).

Dessert:

a groaning board of tarts, wafes, small cakes and fruits to be served after
court.

Please contact the Feast Steward, Mistress Cailte, with any menu questions
or concerns.

Join us Sunday for a rousing WAR practice at Bataan Park, exact time to be
announced at a later date as the winter weather settles.

Autocrat: THL Connor Graham (Joe Roberts)

lord_connor_graham@yahoo.com 505-379-8226

Feast Steward: Mistress Cailte Caitchairn (Kat Roberts) karobert@unm.edu
505-401-2005

Mid-Winter Entertainment

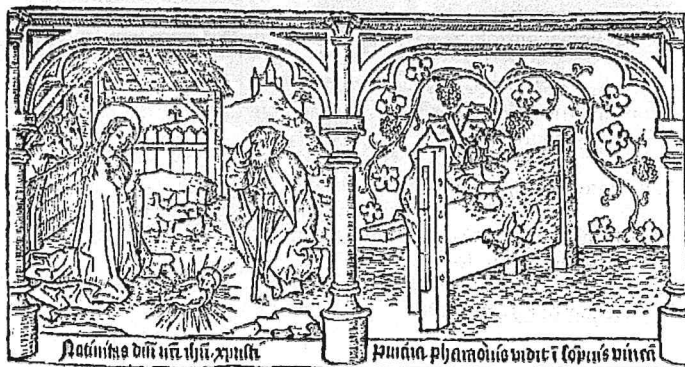
Bards, troubadours, musicians, minstrels, carolers, jugglers, and
other performers from England and France, come delight our guests at
our Mid-Winter celebration in the Time of the Troubadours on Decem-
ber 18th! If you want to entertain at al-Barran's Mid-Winter, please
contact Lady Barbara at kreg@aps.edu or 293-7453.

Midwinter Reservation Information

Online reservation form is available on the al-Barran Midwinter Website.
Reservations must be postmarked no later than 12/08/04. Remember, the
only good reservation is a paid reservation. Make checks payable to SCA-al-
Barran

Mail reservations to:

SCA-al-Barran, Attn: Midwinter, P. O. Box 27676, Albuquerque, NM 87125



SOUTHERN WAR PRACTICE

College of St. Goliass

January 22, AS XXXIX (2005)

Athletic Field, NM Institute of Mining and Technology, Socorro, NM

Site Fee: \$5 at the door

Site opens: 9 am; Site closes: 5 pm

The College of St Goliass is honored to host Southern War Practice. Come practice for battle at Estrella War. Lunch will be served.

Autocrat: Tatiana Travina (Roxanne Price), bonsai_baer@rocketmail.com



ESTRELLA WAR

Kingdom of Atenveldt

February 16-21, 2005

It's been a lovely summer and fall, but now it's December. What are you waiting for? Prepare for WAR! Here's some information on A&S, treaty, and the website.

The Categories for Arts and Sciences at Estrella War are:

- European Dance— (see the court dance article for info on this)
- Storage Containers in any media (*no clothing accessories*)
- Archery equipment

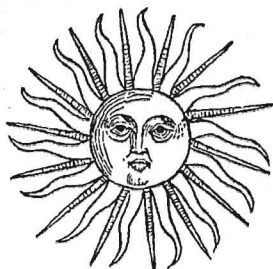
For those who wish to peruse it, the Estrella War Treaty is located at:

<http://www.estrellawar.org/treaty.html>

Al-Barran is still in need of Estrella War coordinators, please contact the seneschal or Their Excellencies about being a coordinator.

Estrella War website: <http://www.estrellawar.org/>

Pre-registration forms are on the Estrella website. You may still pre-register for Estrella War with a money order but your pre-registration must be Postmarked by December 15th 2004!



WAR!!

NEWCOMERS HOUSEHOLD

December Newcomer's meeting is on the 14th. Meetings will be held every second Tuesday of the month at 6:30pm at the Aspen Behavioral Health, 3810 Osuna NE, Suite 1, Albuquerque. If you have any questions please contact Duchess Elisheva at 872-2711.

Coming from South Albuquerque:

Take Exit 230 from I-25, which is the San Mateo-Osuna Exit. Turn LEFT onto Osuna. You will be going WEST on Osuna. See below for proceeding West on Osuna.

Coming from North of Albuquerque:

Take Exit 231 from I-25, which is the Ellison-San Antonio-Osuna Exit. Merge right onto S. Pan American Freeway. Turn Right onto Osuna. You will be going WEST on Osuna. See below for proceeding West on Osuna.

Now go West on Osuna:

The first cross street is Jefferson, the next is Washington. The next cross street is GULTON. Take a LEFT at GULTON. Make an immediate RIGHT (between two empty lots). This street has no name. Straight ahead will be two one-story brick buildings with small turquoise roofs. Aspen is located in the building on your left. As you enter the building, Aspen is in Suite 1 on your left. Look for the signs in the window of the building and in the office.

Hints: If you reach Chappell, a cross street to Osuna with a stoplight, you have gone too far west on Osuna. Turn around and now make a RIGHT on Gulton. Aspen is located West of Calvary Chapel and East of Sandia Prep, across the street from Granger, and west of the NM Education Foundation.

Please do not call the office for questions, please call Baroness Emma at 505-730-1967 or Duchess Elisheva at 505-872-2711.



al-BARRAN YOUTH, PARENTS, AND VOLUNTEERS TEAM

We held a meeting at Toys for Tots, 11/21. Lady Gabrielle surveyed youth recently and will continue to survey the youth as to what they would like to see in the future at events in the way of classes, activities and service. She is also heading up the "Youth Pouches" project to provide gifts of pouches for the youth in al-Barran.

Lady Roma is gathering information for our future website for information for al-Barran youth and parents. We need someone to donate a website for this project, which will then be linked to the al-Barran website.

There will be youth activities at Mid-Winter on 12/18, in al-Barran and Lady Roma will be providing these activities for our youth.

We plan on holding a brief meeting at Mid-Winter of the Team before the feast. This team is comprised of parents, youth, and volunteers for youth activities at al-Barran events and other youth projects. There is also a local discussion list for al-Barran youth, parents, and volunteers for youth activities. To join this free discussion list, where we post important information

Gambler's Anonymous



"...and Fermina never gambled with the pirates again..."

concerning the youth and also team meeting information and projects, please go to www.groups.yahoo.com and search for the group, al-Barran_Youth_and_Parents.

There will be lots of activities for youth who are going to Estrella War in February, outside of Phoenix, Arizona. For a look at youth activities, go to <http://www.estrellawar.org/youth.html>. Youth, age 17 and under, who are attending Estrella War, with someone other than their parent or legal guardian, must have special forms signed in advance by their parent or legal guardian, one of which must be notarized. A full explanation of the forms required for bringing all children to Estrella War can be found at <http://www.estrellawar.org/youthforms.html>. If you have a youth attending Estrella War, please let me know as soon as possible, as we have a special event for them.

Yours in service to the dream,
Lady Barbara, Youth Information Contact Person



GAMMER GURTON'S NEEDLE

For the location of Gammer Gurton's Needle Monday meetings for December, you will need to contact Rosamond or Delia. This month is finishing up the Midwinter project and taking a break, in January we will start up with needle lace.

Gammer Gurton's is a special interest group interested in the study and applications of embroidery, lace, and other needlework techniques.

Contacts: Rosamond de Preston-865-9082 or ladyrosamond@abqbooks.com or Delia the Rose of Thorncastle at 232-7946 or HLDelia@aol.com .

Website: <http://www.themissingpiece.com/ggn/>

"My fair long straight needle, that was mine only treasure. The first day of my sorrow is. And last of my pleasure" -from the play, *The Loss of Gammer Gurton's Needle*, 1575.



AL-BARRAN YOUTH AND PARENTS WEBSITE SPACE NEEDED

Lady Roma is gathering information for our future website for information for al-Barran youth and parents. We need someone to donate a website for this project, which will then be linked to the al-Barran website. If you can donate a website space for at least a year or you have articles or information that would be useful to parents and youth, please contact Lady Roma at Roma1358@hotmail.com .

AL-BARRAN "YOUTH POUCHES" : MATERIALS NEEDED

The al-Barran Youth, Parents, and Volunteers Team are going to create pouches to give to the youth of al-Barran. Lady Gabrielle is heading up this project and Lady Emery has graciously volunteered to embroider a scorpion on each of the pouches. If you can help with the sewing of these pouch gifts or have pieces of material to donate for this project, approximately 12" by 16", please contact Lady Gabrielle at klkountz@hotmail.com or Lady Barbara at krege@aps.edu or 293-7453.

COURT DANCING

November was a busy month for court dancing. We had court dancing in the afternoon and again in the evening at Coronation hosted by Blaiddwyn. Thank you very much Blaiddwyn for the opportunity to court dance. I wish to thank Lord Canus and Lady Melody for helping me teach and lead dances that day. I also wish to thank the musicians of Scorpion Scales, Lady Melody, Lady Lyneya, Lady Bianca, and Obsidian Shaw for the lovely music they played for the dancing that evening. The next weekend, Lord Canus and Lady Isabella taught court dancing classes during the day and then taught the dances for the court dance ball that evening, along with Lord Rouland, Lady Melody, and myself. We also had court dancing at Toys for Tots the next day.

There will also be court dancing after the feast and evening court at Mid-Winter, on Saturday, 12/18 at the Youth Hall at the State Fair Grounds. We hope you will join us. My motto is "don't worry about the steps or which foot to use—just enjoy dancing!" As yet, we haven't set court dance practices for December, so please call Lady Barbara. If you want to know about dance practices and you are not already on the al-Barran Musicians and Court Dancers discussion list which will give you the latest information concerning court dancing practices and Scorpion Scales music practices; please join this free list, just go to www.groups.yahoo.com and search for alBarranMusic_Dance and join this free discussion list.

Yours in service to the dream,

Lady Barbara

INDOOR ROOM NEEDED FOR WINTER COURT DANCING

Because of the cold weather, I am looking for a room that we could use to hold court dance practice a couple of times each month for a couple of hours at each dance practice during December, January, and February on Sundays after 12pm, that would hold 12 to 14 dancers. It could be a church room, school room, apartment complex party or community room, community center or someone's living room. If you know of some room we could use for free, please contact Lady Barbara at kreg@aps.edu or 293-7453. Thank you very, very much.

Copyright Information

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Assorted poems from *the Celtic Book of Days*, by Caitlin Matthews, Destiny Books, ISBN 0892815655, and from *The Lion in Winter*, <http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0063227/quotes>

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Web Sites

al-Barran's website: <http://www.al-barran.org> Outlands' website: <http://www.outlands.org>

Blaiddwyn's website: <http://www.unm.edu/~sca/index.html> SCA's website: <http://www.sca.org>

Discussion Lists

al-Barran@yahoogroups.com blaiddwyn@yahoogroups.com outlands@yahoogroups.com
alBarranMusic_Dance@yahoogroups.com al-Barran_Youth_and_Parents@yahoogroups.com

P.O. Box 27676
Albuquerque, NM 87125

—Henry II, King of England—the Lion in Winter



Jeff Phipps
13416 Sunset Canyon Dr NE
Albuquerque NM 87111

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